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<u>Patent</u>

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Examiner:

Art Unit:

#9/B 02/23/04

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QURESHI, AFSAR M.

FEB 1 9 2004

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22315-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action mailed November 13, 2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the Claims in light of the following remarks and respectfully request allowance of the remaining Claims.

Serial No: 09/784,226

Examiner: Qureshi, Afsar M. - 1 - Art Unit: 2667